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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/791,355	03/01/2004	Takeshi Konno	14470.35US01	2396
23552	7590	05/04/2005	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC			HOANG, JOHNNY H	
P.O. BOX 2903			ART UNIT	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			PAPER NUMBER	

3747

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SP

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/791,355	KONNO, TAKESHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Johnny H. Hoang	3747	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/01/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract is too long. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1,3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Onishi (US 4,864,998).

Regarding claim 1, the reference of Onishi discloses an internal combustion engine control system including the following subject matters: an engine control unit for controlling operation of a vehicle engine provided with power supply means for receiving a power from an external power source and supplying a power required for the engine control unit (see Fig. 1),

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the engine control unit (35) comprising:

unit disconnection detecting (50) means for detecting that the engine control unit (35) is disconnected from the external power source (battery 51) and that the engine control unit (35) is connected to the external power source (battery 51) [Fig. 1, col. 4, lines 3-55], and

storage means for storing predetermined information (col. 4, lines 3-13),

wherein the engine control unit stores an engine stop flag in the storage means when disconnection of the engine control unit is detected by the unit disconnection detecting means and does not permit operation of the engine for a predetermined time period in the case where the engine stop flag is stored in the storage means when connection of the engine control unit is detected (col. 2, lines 3-13, and col. 10, lines 14-59).

Regarding claims 3, and 4, as above discussions.

Regarding claim 5, Onishi further discloses pump or meter control system (col. 3, line 31 through col. 4, line 30).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onishi as applied to above claims in view of Iijima et al (US 5,708,307).

The reference of Onishi discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed above except for the engine control unit permits operation of the engine according to the result of collation between an ID code received from the outside and the ID code which is registered in advance.

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However, the reference of Iijima et al discloses an anti-theft car protection system comprises a transmitter-receiver for receiving a code of the key, an immobilize unit for collating said code as received with a code as registered and transmitting and engine start permission signal to an engine control unit (see abstract, Figs. 1-7, and col. 3, line 34 through col. 7, line 10).

Therefore, It would have been an obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify and/or provide the system of Onishi with an anti-theft car protection system which including the engine control unit transmitting and receiving the ID code signal of the operation, as taught by Iijima et al in order to provide the improved method of protecting a motor vehicle form a theft or the any after car-wash-problem.

Conclusion


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Johnny H. Hoang whose telephone number is (571) 272-4843. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday (7:00Am-5: 30Pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Yuen can be reached on (571) 272-4856.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JHH
April 28, 2005

Johnny H. Hoang
Examiner
Art Unit 3747


Tony M. Argenbright
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3747